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3 May 1954

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

Thursday, 3:00 p.m. New York, New York

PARTICIPANTS:

Mr. Henry Loomis, USIA

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Mr. Walsh, Chief, Security VOA
and the Deputy Chief of Security VOA

SUBJECT:

Security

1. A brief discussion was held with Mr. Walsh and his Deputy to determine the extent of their participation in such matters as information control and de-classification problems. The following sums up the discussion:

a. Personal security - present USIA employment policy calls for the replacement of aliens by U.S. citizens. This change-over will take considerable time as U.S. citizens with proper qualifications are difficult to find. In the interim, aliens are issued special badges which deny the bearers access to classified materials. When an alien needs classified material it is the responsibility of his U.S. superior to brief him on what he needs to know without giving him access to the classified documents themselves.

b. Information control - At present the only de-classification requests received by VOA Security have come from Mr. Newpher, Chief, Research and Library Branch. These requests are transmitted to USIA Security in Washington and thence to Lou Olom, CPI. All other requests about which the survey had been informed by other witnesses apparently go directly to USIA security or Mr. Olom. VOA security was not sure of these de-classification channels.

2. VOA security is handling problems arising from the FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY and other stamps which have been developed to replace the protection previously afforded by the

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classification RESTRICTED. All information control problems associated with copyright communications and slander laws are handled by an office under the VOA comptroller.

3. Apparently the VOA security staff is not familiar with the problems involved in the protection of sources and methods. It is not cognizant of the US OFFICIALS ONLY and NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS controls.

4. It is my impression that the question of how VOA is handling intelligence presently received, let alone the question of their handling more intelligence, should be examined further.

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